ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

Tenth Annual Session

OF THE

CULLMAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE

Pine Grove Church,

October 6, 7, 8 and 9,

1892.

OFFICERS:

Moderator, C. A. OWEN, Cullman, Ala.
Clerk, J. D. SMALL, Hanceville, Ala.
Treasurer, W. H. GUTHRIE, Logan, Ala.

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THE following was adopted at the meeting of Clinton Baptist Association of Tenn.:

"The prophet informs us in reference to the later times that 'Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.' The Spirit said to John, 'What thou seest write in a book, and send it to the several churches of Asia.'

"This has been well done in modern times, and the American Baptist Publication Society is publishing enough in all departments of religious Baptist literature to arm and equip every Baptist in the United States for efficiency in the work to which he may be called. We therefore recommend our brethren to read and circulate them."—

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MINUTES.

The Cullman Baptist Association met, persuant to adjournment, with Pine Grove Church, at 12 o'clock, noon, on October 6th, 1892.

Devotional services for 20 minutes by Brother A. Adams.

The Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. T. E. Hays, after which the Association took a recess for one hour.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Association was called to order by Moderator—after singing and prayer, proceeded to transact the following business: Appointed as reading clerks, Revs. W. H. Guthrie and J. M. Waller. Letters and delegates were received from the following churches: Bethsada, William Bradford. Zion, J. H. Thomas. A. H. Speakman. Beachgrove, J. N. Hardeman, Jas. McMurry, Nathan Elliott, Rev. T. E. Hays. Ebenezer, J. W. Woodard, J. F. Walker. Ryan's Creek, C. F. Fisher, J. A. Harbison, J H. Harbison. Pilgrim's Rest, John Brown, James Mayo, A B. Jackson, Rev. R. C. Leadbetter. Pleasant Grove, J. S. Jones, J. G. Brooks. Cullman, Will G. Brown. New Home, W. W. Kelso, W. C. Eidson, P. R. Tenison, J. A. Mull. Liberty, J. N. Cleghorn, J. O. Lewis. Mt. Hope, W. W. Falkner. Pinegrove, D. Wisner A. J. Earl, W. H. Price. Emmaus, W. T. King, J. C. K. Byrum, A. B. Speakman. Lawrence Cove, T. R. Drinkard, W. S. Drinkard, R. M. Drinkard. Duck River, J. H. Jones, W. H. Hughs. Simcoe, J. D. Lovelady, R. M Mann, J. T.

Thompson. Bethlehem, (East,) J. E. Bland, J. C. Edwards, J. Abbercrombie, A. Adams, Wm. Whaley. New Harmony, no delegates. Enon, F. W. Krussel, J. R. Oden. Corinth, J. J. Hooten, W. S. King, J. E. Bagby. Center Hill, J. C. Quick. Sardis, L. D. Hancock, J. W. Leverett, Thos. Hancock. Logan, W. J. Hudson, Rev. W. H Guthrie. Bethlehem, (West,) J. H. Norman. Goodhope, W. A. Taylor, W. E. Grimmett, Samuel Nunn, C. A. Owen, G. A. Chunn. Hopewell, J. D. Small, Marion Mathews, Jonathan Burns.

Called for petitionary letters, when the following were received: Bangor, W. H. Musgrove, E. L. Jones. Concord, G. W. Screws, B. Chambers. Fairview, H. R. McMurry.

Elected the following as officers, to-wit: C. A. Owen, Moderator, J. D. Small, Clerk, W. H. Guthrie, Treasurer.

Appointed, as Devotional Committee, W. W. Kelso, A. B. Jackson, J. A. Harbison, and Deacons of Pinegrove church.

On motion, adjourned.

9 O'CLOCK, FRIDAY MORNING.

Association called to order by Moderator, prayer by Brother J. M. Waller.

Appointed the following committees on State of Religion: T. E Hays, W. E. Grimmett, J. Abbercrombie.

On missions: W. C. Eidson, R. C. Leadbetter, James McMurry.

On Temperance: Will G. Brown, Wm Bradford, W. A Taylor.

Education: Samuel Nunn, E. L. Jones, W. H. Guthrie

Sunday School: A. B. Jackson, J. T. Brown, H. J. Halbrook.

Documents: J. E. Bagby, T. S. Martin, J. N. Cleghorn.

Finance: J. K. P. Byram, J. T. Thompson, V. S. King.

Querries: A. H. Speakman, H. R. McMurry, J. H. Harbison.

Called for Correspondents, when the following were received: J. M Waller, from the Birmingham association; H. J. Halbrook, from Mussel Shoals association; J. M. Thompson, from Marshall association; W. H.

Absher, J. H. Dunlap, from Warrrior River association. Bro. J. M. Waller was received as correspondent from State, Home and Foreign Mission Boards, also as correspondent of the Board of Ministerial Education.

Returned Correspondence, as follows: To Birmingham, G. A. Chunn, C. A. Owen. To Mussel Shoals, S. Nunn, W. G. Brown, W. H. Guthrie. To Marshall, J. T. Thompson, W. C. Eidson, B. Chambers. To Warrior River, R. C. Leadbetter, W. H. Musgrove, B. Earl. To Sulpher Springs, C. A. Owen, A. H. Speakman, C. F. Fisher, N. Elliott, W. H. Musgrove. To Clear Creek, Aaron Speakman, jr., J. N. Cleghorn, W. J. O. Lewis. To the Alabama State Convention, G. A. Chunn, C. J. Brown, R. C. Leadbetter. On motion, any Brother a member of this association being present at any of the above named associations or conventions, shall act as corresponding messenger.

Adjourned for preaching.

1:30 p. m. Association called to order by Moderator. Prayer by Bro. J. H. Harbison. Called for read and received reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions.

The association was then addressed by Bro. J. M. Waller, for one hour and thirty minutes on the all-important subject of Missions. Adjourned until 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning.

Association called to order at 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning by the Clerk. Prayer by Bro. W. C. Eidson. On motion appointed Bro. Sam'l Nunn, as Moderator pro tem. Called for the report of the Evangelist, read and adopted. Read and adopted the report on associational missions. Nine o'clock the Moderator came in and resumed his chair. Appointed a committee on nominations as follows: Sam'l Nunn, J. M. Leverett, A. B. Jackson. Adopted the reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions. Also, read and adopted the following reports on Temperance, Education and Ministerial Education. Adjourned one hour for dinner.

One o'clock p. m.—Association called to order by Moderator. Prayer by Bro. Brooks. Received the report on Querries, in answer to the querry, "Has a Baptist church

the right to receive members from other denominations on their former baptism." Answer, "No."

Received and adopted reports on Religious Literature, on Documents, on Nominations. On motion divided the Association into two Districts, making the Railroad the line—District No. 1 East of Railroad, No. 2 West of the Railroad.

Second District meeting convenes at Logan on Friday before the first Sunday in March. Second District meeting to convene at Corinth, on Friday before the second Sunday in May 1893.

Appointed T S Martin to preach the Introductory Sermon at next session of this body—C A Owen to preach the Missionary Sermon.

Received and adopted the finance report

On motion ordered all the money for missions now on hand to be paid to the Evangelist, W. C. Eidson.

On motion the time of meeting was changed to 10 o'clock on Thursday before the 2nd Sunday in October.

Read and received Sunday school report. It was then tabled until Sunday morning 9 o'clock.

On motion directed the articles of faith to be printed in the minutes.

Adjourned until Sunday morning, 9 o'clock.

Association called to order at 10 o'clock Sunday morning.

Prayer by Elder Wm. Whaley.

Called for and read Sunday School report, after some discussion it was adopted.

The missionary sermon was preached, at 11 o'clock, by Elder R. C. Leadbetter, after which there was a collection taken up for missions, amounting to $5.20.

Read and adopted Treasurer's report.

The Association then adjourned to meet with Sardis church, 10 miles southwest of Cullman, near Trimbles mill, at 10 o'clock, a. m., on Thursday before the 2nd Sunday in October, A. D. 1893.

Prayer by Elder Wm. Whaley. Signed,

J. D. Small, Clerk. C. A. Owen, Moderator.

STATE MISSION REPORT.

The State Mission Board has, in its employ, during the year, 51 missionaries, a majority of whom are laboring in North Alabama. The amount reported by these as collected for the last conventional year is $6000, most of the money has been expended in North Alabama. Much has

been done by these missionaries in carrying the Gospel to the destitute parts of the State, but there remains much more to be done. When we consider the rapid influx of population rushing into our State and the influence they bring, which, if not met by the Gospel of Christ, will demoralize the rising generation and drag them down to hell. We believe the State Mission Board is the chief agency in the hands of the churches, through which we are to meet these influences. Therefore we urge upon the the churches the importance of contributing liberally to this Board so as to enable it to extend its work to all the destitute parts.

Respectfully submitted. W. H. GUTHRIE,
Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

The board entered the last conventional year with an indebtedness of $10,000.00 and an obligation to pay $20,000 on the Havana House, this requiring the sum of $30,000 additional to the amount needed for missionary work for the year ending May, 1892, therefore the amount of its missionaries are less than they were last year, and the result somewhat reduced. The board had, in its employ, 365 missionaries and the result of their work is as follows: Weeks of labor, 10,640, churches and stations, 1,324, sermons and addresses, 46,866, prayer meetings, 14042, baptism, 5,274, received by letter, 5,973, total additions, 11,247, Sunday schools organized, 343, teachers and pupils, 17,785, religious visits, 54,336, churches constituted, 179, houses of worship built 80, bibles and testaments sold and given away, 4,304, pages of tracts distributed, 919,472. As reports from all missionaries could not be had this report may be considered as approximate. This Board is now working, through its missionaries, in the countries of Cuba, the Southern states and Indian Territory. Among the Indians the Gospel is preached in the English language in consequence of this being the language taught in their schools. The work in the island of Cuba is very encouraging. The Board having purchased property in the heart of the city, thus furnishing our Baptist people an attractive house of worship. Thus insuring to the public the permanance of our cause and elevating their conceptions of the force behind it. Thus, we, as Baptist, are creating new friends, and the sphere of our influence is widening. This Board is also doing noble work in the Southern States, sending missionaries to all destitute places, thereby reaching a people with the Gos-

pel who could not be reached otherwise.

The Board now proposes to raise $125,000, as a centennial fund to be used as a chapel building fund which shall be appropriated to building church houses in our cities, towns and country where we have none. Thus furnishing the people comfortable houses in which to worship God.

As the Board is striving, by the help of God, to do more this year than ever before, we should give more to this cause than ever before. Respectfully submitted,

G. A Chunn, Chr'mn.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We, your committee, beg leave to report the following: The work of the Foreign Board last year is very encouraging, having had in its employ twenty one Missionaries in addition to the number reported the previous year. These have gone into the countries of China, Brazil, Japan, Mexico and Africa. This work is doing a great deal for the cause in these fields. The receipts of the year are $114,325.80. This is the largest annual sum ever received, but while this is about $800 more than received last year, the amount paid the several Missions beyond the payments last year, is about $8,000. This indicates the enlargement of our enterprise, and shows that the churches have not kept pace with the progress of the work. Below we append statistics as shown in report of Southern Baptist Convention of 1892:

Main Stations, 30. In the city of Main Stations, 19. Other places 136. Missionaries—Males 38; Females 36; umarried females, 17. Ordained Natives, 21; unordained natives, males 49, females 11. Organized churches, 74; members 2,723. Increase—Baptisms, 434; Letters, 82; Restorations, 21; Deaths, 44; Expulsions, 66; Letters, 39. Schools—Male, 5; Female, 10; Mixed, 5; Scholars, 748. Contributions, $3,956.09. Respectfully submitted.

A. B. Jackson, Chr'm.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We, your committee, beg leave to call attention to article 3 of our constitution, which is as follows: The objects of this association are to promote practical piety in our churches; to extend the Redeemer's Kingdom on earth; to ASSIST YOUNG MINISTERS IN PREPARING FOR THE MINISTRY, etc. We regret to report that nothing is being done toward assisting young ministers in preparing to preach the Gospel, nor has there been anything done in this direction since the association was formed. Last

year we were asked to give the small sum of $25, but we learn from the letters of the churches that only $3.05 of this amount has been raised. We have about twenty noble young men in Howard College, striving to prepare themselves for preaching the Gospel, and are depending almost entirely upon our voluntary contributions for their support. We recommend that the churches raise, at least, $25 at once—that a committee be appointed to apportion the amount to the differet churches, according to membership, and that our pastors preach a special sermon on this subject, following it with a collection, and forward the same to the State Mission Board.

WILL G. BROWN, Chr'm..

REPORT OF ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we find from the letters that the Mission cause is some on the increase from the last report. But we find that some of the churches have failed to send anything for missions. We would urge those churches to consider well their duty on this subject. We recommend that this association put two Evangelist in the field for three months, commencing July 1st 1893, provided that sufficient means can be raised for their support. We further recommend that an Executive Board of five be appointed to manage the associational missions, direct the operations of the missions, receive reports of their work, and take all necessary steps toward raising their salaries. Said Board shall have power to employ Missionaries to fill vacancies that may occur. Respectfully submitted. W. C. EIDSON, Chr'm.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

Your committee on Religious Literature, beg leave to report We find that only three preachers in our association take the Alabama Baptist. At the last association the delegates were requested to see that their Pastors were furnished this paper, if they were not able to pay for it themselves. With such a poor showing from our pastors, what can be expected from our laymen? We recommend that the church report to the next association the amount of religious literature used by the pastors and members of each church. We further recommend the use of the Ala. Baptist, published at Montgomery; The State Mission Quarterly, published at Marion, Ala.; The Home Mission Journal, Atlanta, Ga.; and Foreign Mission Journal, Richmond, Va. No Baptist can be thoroughly informed in our denominational work without these

papers. We find that five of our S. S. use literature, and we recommend that every school, however small, use the literature of our denomination. We condemn union literature of any kind in Baptist schools. We recommend both the American Baptist and Kind Words, literature. The American Baptist Publication Society, 66½ Whitehall St., Atlanta, Ga., will furnish literature free to schools for three months on application.

Respectfully submitted. WILL G. BROWN,
Chairman.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOL.

We, your committee, find, by examining the letters from the different churches of this Association that there are 12 churches that have Sunday school. Number of officers, 57. Scholars 563. This shows about one-third our churches that keep up Sunday School. This is an increase of 300 scholars above last year, but there is great room for improvement, yet. We insist that every church have a Sunday School. We believe that Sunday School is a great help to the cause of christianity.

Respectfully, submitted,
A. B. JACKSON, Chr'm.

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION.

We, your committee, on state of Religion, beg leave to report the following: We find from the letters that the cause of Christ is advancing in our midst. We find that during the past year a goodly number have been added to the church, but we fear the cause of Christ is not what it should be. Let us be more careful in our daily walk and conversation, so as to elevate the cause of Christ and build up his kingdom here on earth.

T. E. HAYS, Chr'm.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee on Temperance, beg leave to report: At the last session of this body, each pastor was requested to preach as much as one sermon to each of his churches on Temperance, during the year. So far as we can learn but two have complied with this request. This is not right, we expect our watchmen on the wall to cry aloud and spare not, and warn the people of the evils of intemperance, and use every argument possible to keep our members from visiting saloons and becoming intoxicated. We further recommend that each pastor be requested to urge the cause of temperance on their churches, during the next year. WILL G. BROWN, Chr'm.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

It is impossible, without education and proper training, to be able to combat with the enemy of souls. We, therefore recommend, that you use every means in your power to educate your children both morally and intellectually, that they may be prepared to battle for Christ. We would urge upon your minds the great necessity of home training among your children. Teach them to think seriously while in their youth. God grant that parents may become alive to this all-important subject of education, and that they may educate their children in the Lord, and for the Lord. We also recommend that our ministers be educated to a higher standard, that they may be enabled to propound to the people the gospel in its simplicity and purity. We would recommend to our ministers the Howard College, and the Judson Institute. And the Female Institute at Tuskaloosa, for our girls. We do most heartily recommend the education of woman as the most efficient means of educating the rising generation. Respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL NUNN, Chr'm.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your committee, recommend as Evangelist, R. C. Leadbetter, on the east side of the Railroad, and W. C. Eidson, west of the Railroad. Executive committee—W. G. Brown, C. A. Owen, Samuel Nunn. A. B. Jackson, R. D. Dunlap. As delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention, H. J. Halbrook; J. D. Small, alternate. Respectfully submitted,

A. B. JACKSON, Chr'm.

REPORT OF EVANGELIST.

Brethren: I beg leave to report the following for my services as Missionary in this Association. for the months of July, August and September Number of miles traveled, 598. Sermons preached, 78. Family visits, 140. S. S. Lectures, 10. Baptized 8. Received by Letter, 13. Church visits 15. Respectfully submitted, W. C. EIDSON, Evangelist.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

I have received from the Finance Committee:

For Associational Missions for the year 1891	$19.78
" " " " " " 1892	39.05
Vouchers to the amount of	17.45
Collections on Sunday	5.20
Minutes	26.45

W. H. GUTHRIE, Treas.

Per W. J. HUDSON.

LIST OF ORDAINED AND THEIR POST OFFICE.

G. L. Brindley,	Simcoe,	Ala.	A. Adams,	Hanceville,	Ala.
J. H. Harvison,	Bremen,	"	C. B. Wilhite,	Falkville,	"
Thos. Burrel,	"	"	J. A. Long,	Joppa,	"
R. C. Ledbetter,	Walter,	"	T. S. Martin,	Cullman,	"
W. Johnson,	Trimble,	"	G. A. Chunn,	"	"
L. B. Mullin,	Cullman,	"	P. R. Tennison,	Bright,	"
C. A. Owen,	"	"	W. C. Endson,	"	"
T. E. Hays,	Hanceville	"	A. J. Noles,	May Apple,	"
Wm. Whaley,	"	"	J. M. Stewart,	Summit,	"
A. Newburn,	Crane Hill,	"	Wm. Teague,	"	"
W. H. Guthrie,	Logan,	"	C. C. Hughes,	Strawberry,	"
S. Henderson,	Cullman,	"	G. W. Chandler,	Bosenberg,	"

LIST OF LICENTIATES.

T. M. Swann,	Hanceville,	Ala.	N. D. Mayo,	Walter,	Ala.
J. J. Harris,	Crane Hill,	"	J. A. Fortenberry,	Summit,	"
J. A. Mull,	Bright,	"	J. W. Barnett,	"	"
H. D. Rainwater,	Holly Pond,	Ala.	C. J. Holloway,	Cullman,	"

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

ARTICLE 1. Devotional Exercises, Thirty minutes.

2. Preach Introductory Sermon. Adjourn one hour.

3. Association called to order by Moderator, or Clerk, in the absence of the Moderator. Appoint two Brethren as reading clerks.

4. Call for and read letters and enroll delegates.

5. Called for Petionary Letters.

6. Election of Officers.

7. Appointment of necessary committees.

8. Call for correspondence.

9. Return correspondence.

10. Call for report of committees.

11. Appointment of time and place of District Meetings.

12. Select place for next Annual Meeting of the Association.

13. Miscellaneous Business.

14. Adjourn.

DECLARATION OF FAITH.

1. OF THE SCRIPTURES.

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of Christian union, and the supreme standar d by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

II. OF THE TRUE GOD.

We believe that there is one, and only one living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is JEHOVAH, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and Earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the God-head there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. OF THE FALL OF MAN.

We believe that Man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil: and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

IV. OF THE WAY OF SALVATION.

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the Medatorial offices of the Son of God, who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Saviour.

V. OF JUSTIFICATION.

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is Justification; that Justification includes the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life on the principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

VI. OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial penitent and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel; which rejection in-

volves him in an aggravated condemnation.

VII. OF GRACE IN REGENERATION.

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with Divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, and faith, and newness of life.

VIII. OF REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

We believe that Repentance and Faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Saviour.

IX. OF GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

We believe that Election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the Gospel; and that it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

X. OF SANCTIFICATION.

We believe that Sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means—especially, the word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

XI. OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS.

We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. OF THE HARMONY OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL.

We believe that the Law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just, and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy Law is one great end of the Gospel, and of the Means of Grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

XIII. OF A GOSPEL CHURCH.

We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of

baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by his laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only scriptural officers are Bishops or Pastors and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

XIV. OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, with its effect, in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is pre-requisite to the privileges of a church relation; and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

XV. OF THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath; and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public; and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

XVI. OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

We believe that Civil Government is of Divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed, except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

XVII. OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

XVIII. OF THE WORLD TO COME.

We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the Last Day, Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

STATISTICS OF CULLMAN ASSOCIATION, 1892.

CHURCH.	COUNTY	PASTOR	CLERK.	CLERKS' POST OFFICE	INCREASE BY					DECREASE BY				Present membership	Preaching Sabbaths.	Minute fund		Missions
					Membership last reported.	Baptism	Letter	Experience	Restoration	Letter	Exclusion	Erasure	Death					
Bethsaida	Cullman	C. A. Owen	W. Bradford	Cullman	46	2	2	2	1	1			2	48	4	1 00	4	50
Beech Grove	"	T. E. Hays	J. N. Hardman	Loretto	54		3		1	8	5			44	4	75		
Bethlehem, (E)	Blount	S. Henderson	J. Abercrumbie	Hanceville	20	10	12			2				35	3	1 00	1	48
Bethlehem, (W)	Cullman	J. W. Hood	W. B. Adams	Clarkson	17					1	1			18	2	40		
Bell Spring	"	Not reported			35									35				
Bangor	Blount	Joseph Thomas	E. L. Jones	Bangor			2		2					12	3	50		85
Cullman	Cullman	H. J. Halbrook	W. G. Brown	Cullman	36	5	7			4	3			41	2, 4	1 06	16	40
Concord	"	B. Chambers	J. C. Watts	Loyd										22	1	60		50
Corinth	"	W. C. Eidson	J. J. Hooten	Joppa	27	6	20			4				49	2	1 15		
Center Hill	"	W. H. Absher	L. A. Giles	Carl	17	6	2			6				25	2	1 00		85
Duck River	"	W. H. Absher	W. H. Hughs	Walter	33	2	3	2	1	5	3		1	30	3	55	1	25
Ebonezer	"	None	J. T. Walker	Cullman	24		5		2	3	1			29	1	50		
Enon	"	S. Henderson	J. R. Oden	Cullman	24	2	5		2	1				34	4	1 00		
Emmaus	"	C. A Owen	A. B. Speakman	Logan	53	9				4	1		1	56	3	1 50	1	75
El Bethel		Not represented			13									13				
Flint Creek	"	Not reported			65									65				
Fairview	"	T. E. Hays	J. L. Ashley	Hanceville										20		50		
Good Hope	"	C. A. Owen	Sam Nunn	Cullman	128	13	11						3	149	1	2 50	6	10
Hopewell	"	G. W. Chandler	J D. Small	Hanceville	88	1	2			10		1	3	74	4	1 55	2	70
Laurence Cove	Morgan	S. Henderson	R. L. Henderson	Laurence Cove	47	3	3		1	2	4		1	47	4	1 00		
Liberty	Winston	G. W. Gibson	H A. Paris	Nesmith	25	3	2		1					31	3	1 00		
Logan	Cullman	W. H. Guthrie	J. T. McCoy	Logan	25	2	7			3	1	1		29	1	50		
Mt. Hope	"	J. B. Harbison	J. G. Land	Crane Hill	67	7	6	7		3	4			74	1	1 35		
New Harmony	"	J. A. Oden	G. W. Noles	May Apple	16									16	1	75		
New Home	"	W. C. Eidson	H. J. Preston	Bright	55	1	1	1	1	6	3		2	48	3	1 05	3	00
Pine Grove	"	W. J. Chambers	B. Earl	Holly Pond	49	13				1	5		1	55	4	1 00		
Pleasant Grove	"	J. B. Harbison	W. E. Woodard	Logan	35	4	1			4			1	35	3	1 00		
Pilgrim's Rest	"	W. H. Absher	W. T. Murphrey	Walter	26		2			3				25	4	90	6	50
Ryan's Creek	"	A. Newbern	W. F. Davis	Bremen	74	2	1	2	1	6	1			72	2			
Simcoe	"	R. C. Leadbetter	G. C. Glasscock	Simcoe	35	4	4			2	2			39	1	1 00	1	90
Sardis	"	T. S. Martin	L. D. Hancock	Trimble	18	13	9			1				40	2	1 00	3	45
Zion	"	W. H. Guthrie	W. M. Flowers	Jones Chapel	20	7	3			4				26	4	50		
				Total	1172	115	113	13	13	87	34	2	15	1335		26 75	51	23

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